

CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The medical profession in China has always suffered from a lack of medical supplies and particularly medical drugs. There are only two major drug manufacturers in China. The New Asia Company with headquarters in Shanghai, a branch office in Canton, and a small factory in Hong Kong, and the Sine Company, also of Shanghai. These two companies make most of the common drugs, including serums, such as vaccinations for diphtheria, tetanus antitoxin, smallpox, etc. They do not, however, make any of the antibiotics. 50X1
2. In 1951 during the severe plague epidemic in Manchuria (blamed on US germ warfare), the USSR sent in a quantity of plague serum. Sulphur drugs were used extensively in treating plague patients with considerable success. 50X1 50X1
3. In 1950 and 1951 speculators imported a large amount of antibiotics. Most of these supplies were brought in at a cost of approximately US\$.80 per bottle of 300 thousand units. Speculators sold penicillin for as much as US\$6.00 to US\$8.00 a bottle. penicillin was selling at about US\$.70 for the 300 thousand unit bottle. US medical drugs are greatly preferred to all others, but European drugs are now more commonly in use because they are cheaper. 50X1 50X1

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